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PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Dated: April 5, 2005

Signature: Michael J. Doherty  
(Michael J. Doherty)

Docket No.: SPINE 3.0-446 CONT  
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:  
Ralph et al.

Application No.: 10/715,969

Group Art Unit: 3738

Filed: November 18, 2003

Examiner: J. G. Blanco

For: INTERVERTEBRAL SPACER DEVICE  
HAVING ARCH SHAPED SPRING  
ELEMENTS

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the references listed on the enclosed form be made of record and considered with respect to the above-referenced U.S. patent application. Submission of the present Information Disclosure Statement should not be taken as an admission that the cited references are legally available prior art or that the same are pertinent or material.

In the event that any fee is due in connection with the present Information Disclosure Statement, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 12-1095.

Dated: April 5, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

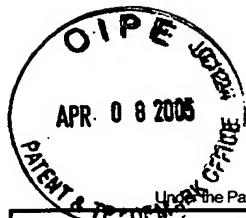
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Substitute for form 1-761A/B/PTO				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/715,969
				Filing Date	November 18, 2003
				First Named Inventor	James D. Ralph
				Art Unit	3738
				Examiner Name	J. G. Blanco
Sheet	1	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	SPINE 3.0-446 CONT

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
AC	US-2002/0111681-A1	05-25-2004	Ralph et al.		
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AE	US-2002/0111683-A1	12-30-2003	Ralph et al.		
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AR3	US-6,527,806-A1	03-04-2003	Ralph et al.		

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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PTO/SB/08a/b (08-03)

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Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	2	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	SPINE 3.0-446 CONT
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

### NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>T<sup>2</sup></sup>

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